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REMARKS

INTRODUCTION:

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 8 and 9 have been added. No new matter is being presented, and approval and entry are respectfully requested.

Claims 2-9 are pending and under consideration.

NEW CLAIMS

Applicant respectfully submits that for at least similar reasons to those stated in the Amendment filed April 19, 2004, in the section regarding the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102, as well as for the additional features recited therein, claim 8, which depends from claim 2, and claim 9, which depends from independent claim 7, patentably distinguish over the cited art.

CONCLUSION:

In accordance with the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that all outstanding objections and rejections have been overcome and/or rendered moot, and further, that all pending claims patentably distinguish over the cited art. Thus, there being no further outstanding objections or rejections, the application is submitted as being in condition for allowance which action is earnestly solicited.

If the Examiner has any remaining issues to be addressed, it is believed that prosecution can be expedited by the Examiner contacting the undersigned attorney for a telephone interview to discuss resolution of such issues.

If there are any underpayments or overpayments of fees associated with the filing of this Amendment, please charge and/or credit the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: April 26, 2004

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